

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed June 6, 2003, was received and carefully reviewed. In response to the Office Action, claims 1, 2 & 10 have been amended, and non-elected claim 9 has been cancelled. Furthermore, a new claims 11 and 12 have been added. In view of these actions and for the reasons set forth in detail below, claims 1-8 and 10-12 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 10 stand rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by *Jury* (USP '685) or *Thomas* (USP '930), claims 1-6 and 10 stand rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by *Newhouse* (USP '845), and claims 7 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, as indicated at pages 2-3 of the Office Action.

First, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 7 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, claims 7 and 8 will be maintained in dependent form, as they depend from independent claim 1, which is considered to be equally allowable for the reasons set forth below.

Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-6 and 10 is requested, because the applied references fail to disclose all of the features recited in either of claims 1 & 10. For example, independent claim 1 recites:

A metallic body, to be bonded to the outside of a housing of a machine, especially a vibrating machine, said metallic body comprising a housing or shell of a sensor, said sensor being capable of converting a physical quantity, in particular a physical quantity related to one or more aspects of mechanical vibration, into a corresponding electrical signal, or said metallic body comprising an adaptor for attaching said sensor to the housing of the machine, said body further comprising a substantially flat adhesion surface, characterized in that said adhesion surface is adapted to accept a layer of adhesive thereon and is provided with an undercut portion which forms a shoulder and an acute, wedge-shaped edge with the periphery of said adhesion

surface, said wedge-shaped edge being oriented to face away from said adhesion surface and to oppose said shoulder; and

independent claim 10, as amended, recites:

A body adapted to be adhesively bonded to the outside of a housing of a machine, said body comprising a substantially flat adhesion surface provided with an undercut portion, said undercut portion forming a shoulder and an acute, wedge-shaped edge with the periphery of said adhesion surface, said wedge-shaped edge oriented to face away from said adhesion surface and to oppose said shoulder.

By contrast, *Thomas* is silent with respect to **any** use of adhesive or glue, much less “a substantially flat adhesion surface ... adapted to accept a layer of adhesive thereon,” as recited in independent claim 1, nor a “body adapted to be adhesively bonded to the outside of a housing of a machine,” as recited in independent claim 10, as amended, being provided with an adhesive substance for that purpose, as set forth in new claims 11 and 12. In addition, the process of coating a metal with another metal, as disclosed by *Thomas*, fails to provide an adhesive connection, because an adhesive connection would require 3 participants, i.e., a first member to be adhesively connected, an adhesive substance, and a second member to be adhesively connected, which clearly is not the case with *Thomas*.

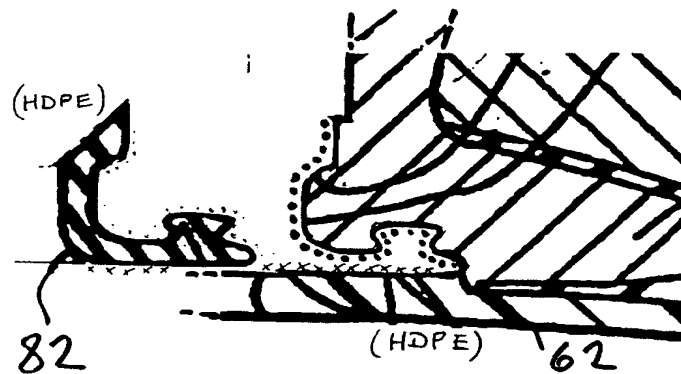
Furthermore, a dovetail connection, such as that of *Thomas*, typically is provided for ease of disengagement of temporarily engaged parts. Accordingly, such a mechanical connection/disconnection with dovetails is completely different from the invention recited in independent claims 1 and 10, which is directed to making a permanent, non-disconnectable, and secure attachment of a metallic body to be adhesively bonded to the outside of a housing of a machine. Moreover, *Thomas* fails to disclose vibrating machines or sensors attached to same for converting mechanical vibrations into an electric signal, as recited in independent claim 1.

As with *Thomas*, *Jury* also is silent with respect to **any** use of adhesive or glue, much less “a substantially flat adhesion surface ... adapted to accept a layer of adhesive thereon,” as recited in independent claim 1, nor a “body adapted to be adhesively bonded to the outside of a housing of a machine,” as recited in independent claim 10, as amended. Specifically, *Jury*, like *Thomas*, discloses dovetails for forming metal to metal connections. For example, *Jury* discloses that “the head portions of metal inserts are then inserted into the grooves at a metal to metal joining zone, and each head is retained to the metal work piece by metal deformation” (Abstract). In addition, as with *Thomas*, *Jury* also fails to disclose vibrating machines or sensors attached to same for converting mechanical vibrations into an electric signal, as recited in independent claim 1.

Similarly, *Newhouse* does not relate to a machine, but to a fully static pressure vessel, unlikely to regularly emit noise or vibrations. Thus, *Newhouse* is not concerned with acoustics or acoustic sensors, nor addresses fastening a sensor of any kind to a specific object or surface. Accordingly, as with *Thomas* and *Jury*, *Newhouse* also fails to disclose vibrating machines or sensors attached to same for converting mechanical vibrations into an electric signal, as recited in independent claim 1.

Thus, *Newhouse* fails to disclose a “metallic body to be bonded to the **outside** of a housing of a machine,” as recited in independent claim 1, but rather is directed to a boss to be inserted into the **inside** of a pressure vessel. In addition, *Newhouse* is silent with respect to a metallic body including a substantially flat adhesion surface, let alone at the distal end of the body

Furthermore, any adhesion surfaces in *Newhouse* are disclosed to possibly be employed in an auxiliary manner, and do not include an undercut portion, which forms a shoulder and an acute, wedge-shaped edge with the periphery of the adhesion surface, as recited in independent claims 1 and 10. This can be clearly seen from the close up view of Fig. 3 of *Newhouse* below.



Legend:

- Adhesive Primer Surface
- x x x x Welded Surface
- x x x x (HDPE - HDPE)

(From Fig. 3,
US 5,429,845)

As can be seen from FIG. 3, *Newhouse* does not disclose an adhesion surface in the manner claimed, but rather employs the upper edges of the tab 88 and the groove 77 of the metallic body as an adhesive primer surface. Accordingly, the only mentioned adhesive in *Newhouse* is essentially a primer to better bond the plastic interface member 82 that is directly to be molded to the boss. In addition, contrary to the assertion in the present Office Action, the tapered throat 26 of *Newhouse* does not have a wedge-shape, but rather has a conically tapered surface (i.e., without an acute edge).

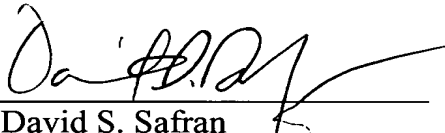
Accordingly, based on the above discussion, Applicants submit that the applied references fail to disclose all of the features recited in independent claims 1 and 10. In addition, dependent claims 2-6 and 11-12 are allowable on their own merits and for at least the reasons argued above with respect to independent claims 1 and 10.

The references that were cited, but not applied, in the present Office Action have been considered in formulating the above response, but since these references were not deemed to be of significant relevance by the Examiner to apply against any of the pending claims, no detailed discussion thereof is believed to be warranted at this time.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicant's representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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